

U.S. Application No. 09/866,286
Reply to Final Office Action of February 6, 2006

PATENT
450100-03242

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks

I. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,519,655 (Pitot et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,469,434 (Kurdzo et al.) and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,140,584 to Suzuki et al. The rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites "a plurality of kinds of data." The rejection relies on Pitot (col. 2, lines 54-59) as allegedly teaching a signal processing apparatus for receiving a signal including a "plurality of kinds of data." But the relied upon portions of Pitot teaches a method for the reception and preprocessing of digital messages. There is no mention made in the relied upon passage for "a plurality of kinds of data."

The office action implicitly acknowledges this distinction with respect to the "memory means" component of claim 1 as further reliance is place on Suzuki for the storage of a plurality of kinds of data. However, no such additional reliance on other references is made to address the plurality of kinds of data aspects of the detecting means, processing means, or changing means. Accordingly, it is submitted that Pitot does not teach a signal processing apparatus for receiving a plurality of kinds of data, as recited in claim 1.

Further, claim 1 recites "detecting means for detecting a type of each of a plurality of kinds of data." In contrast, the device in Pitot is described in the relied upon portions as including equipment which "identifies the identification tag and analyzes its content in order to ascertain whether it corresponds to a locally available preprocessing program." It is submitted

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that the device described in the relied upon portion of Pitot is in the nature of a "go/no-go" switch, which if the parameters of the tag correspond to those of the equipment, a function is performed, but if they do not, no function is performed. In contrast, as recited in claim 1, the device of the instant application detects "a type of each of a plurality of kinds of data." It is respectfully submitted that these are different functions. Accordingly, this feature of claim 1 is not taught by Pitot.

Next, the office action alleges that "'corresponding' is a broad phrase which only necessitates that that [sic] the operation relates in some manner to the timing of the data." (*Office Action* Page 3, lines 3-4). It is respectfully submitted that the term "corresponding" modifies the term "type of data" and not "the timing of the transit of said data." As such the operation of the processing means is changed to one of the plurality of functional operations that corresponds to the type of data. In contrast, the relied upon portions of Pitot, as described above teach operations will only be changed if the tag corresponds to the handling processor for which the message was intended.

It is believed that the relied upon portions of Pitot, Kurdzo, and Suzuki do not teach or suggest the features, discussed above, as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that claim 1 of the instant application patentably distinguishes over the relied upon portions of the cited reference and is allowable. Claims 2-8 which depend from independent claim 1 are therefore be allowable therewith.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

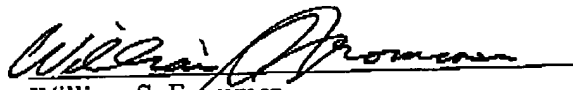
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In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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